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# Team Software Process for Secure Systems Development

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# **Overview**

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➡ **Defective software is not secure**

**The Team Software Process**

**TSP and secure systems development**



# Defective Software is not Secure

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Common software defects are a principal cause of software security incidents.

- Over 90% of software security incidents are due to attackers exploiting known software defect types.<sup>1</sup>
- Analysis of forty-five e-business applications showed that 70% of the security defects were design defects.<sup>2</sup>

Conclusion: there is no such thing as a poor quality secure system.

- CERT/CC
- "The Security of Applications: Not All Are Created Equal", by Andrew Jacquith.



# Security Design Defects

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## Examples

- Failure to authorize and authenticate users
- Failure to validate user input
- Failure to encrypt and/or protect sensitive data

Everyday software “bugs” are also a major risk.

For example, a buffer overflow can cause system failure, or allow a hacker to take control of your system.

Many common defect types can produce a buffer overflow.

- declaration error
- logic errors in loop control or conditional expression
- failure to validate input
- interface specification error



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# **The Software Quality Problem**

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Software quality is highly variable and generally poor in non-mission critical systems.

Widely-used operating systems and applications software are known to have more than 2 defects per KSLOC, or 2000+ defects per million SLOC.

If only 5% of these defects are potential security concerns, there are 100 vulnerabilities per million SLOC.



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# Software Practice and Quality

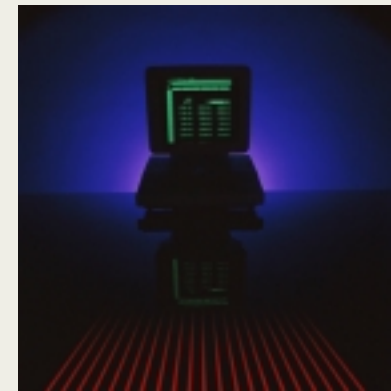
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Software is the only modern technology that ignores quality until test. Typically, software engineers

- do not plan their own work
- race through requirements and design
- do the design while coding

These practices introduce volumes of defects.

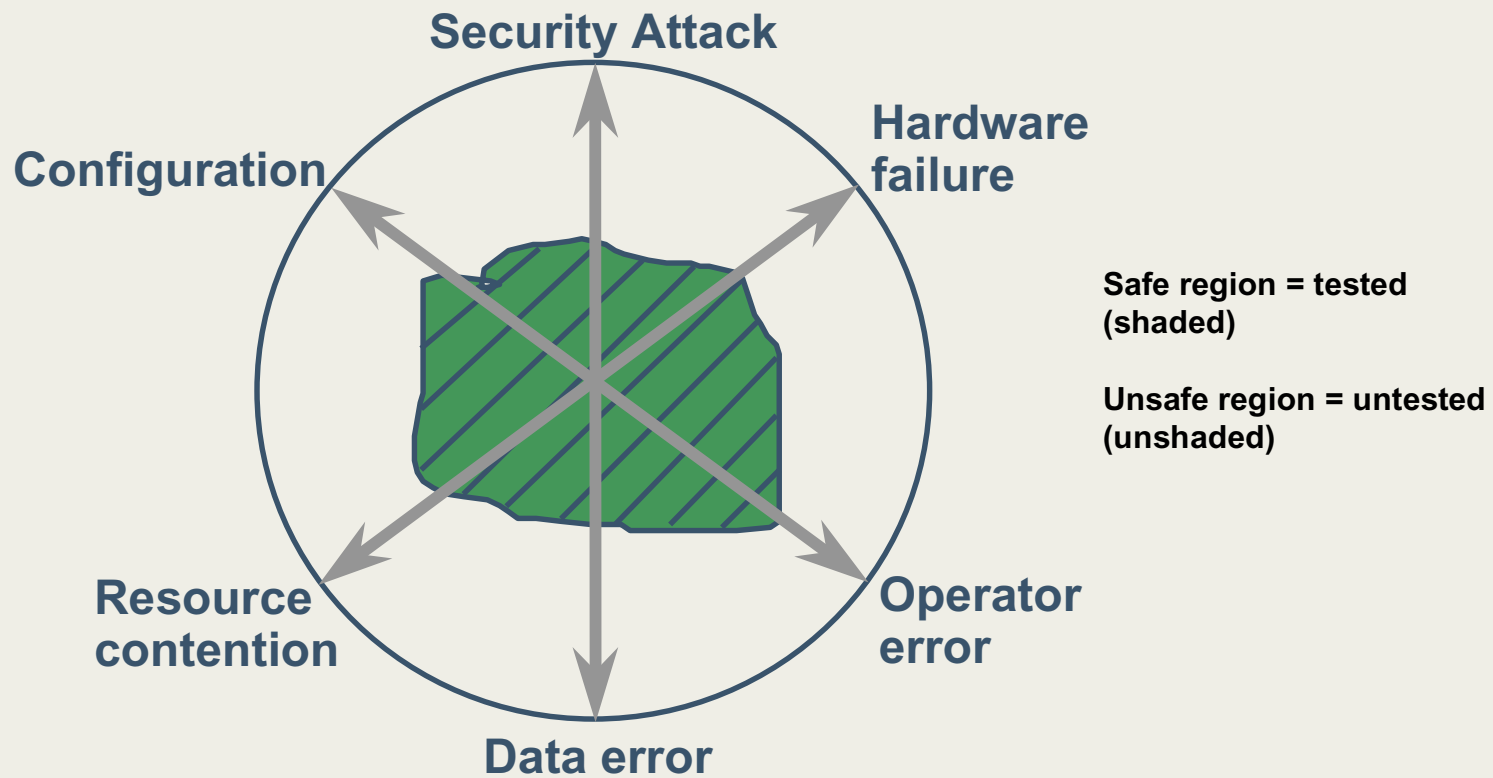
- Experienced engineers inject a defect every 7 to 10 lines of code.
- For even moderate-sized systems, this amounts to thousands of defects.
- Most of these defects must be found in test.
- This usually takes about half of the development schedule.







# The Problem with Testing





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# Principles of Software Engineering

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Current software practice violates well understood principles of software engineering.

Examples of software engineering principles

- the need for accurate plans
- the importance of detailed, verifiable designs
- early defect removal
- effective inspections
- focus on quality throughout

Why are these principles not applied?



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# Principles Are Not Enough

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Principles are easy to understand, but harder to follow.

To apply these principles in practice you also need

- a supportive infrastructure and environment
- an operational process (rules and steps) to put the principles into practice
- a measurement system to manage and control the result

Software engineers also need to be convinced of the benefits of disciplined software engineering methods.



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## **Design Principles for Secure Applications**

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The principles for producing secure applications are also well known and easy to understand.

### Examples

- Authorize and authenticate all users
- Mistrust all user input
- Encrypt sensitive data from login to logout
- Protect persistent data



## What is the Issue?

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Lack of understanding is not the issue.

A lack of data is not the issue. A vast amount of incident-specific and system-specific data exists.

Training is not the issue. Training is available for

- writing secure applications
- network administration

Support is not the issue. There are emergency response centers (including the CERT/CC), guidelines, checklists, best practices, etc.



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## **More Is Needed**

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With all the information and resources available, why is security still an issue?

Maybe there is a need for more.

- an environment that fosters good practice
- operational processes based on engineering principles
- disciplined practitioners that adhere to these principles
- predictive measures



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# The Team Software Process -1

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The Team Software Process (TSP) is an operational process designed to support well-established principles of software engineering.

The principal objectives of the TSP are

- help software engineering teams build quality products within cost and schedule constraints
- build teams quickly and reliably
- optimize team performance throughout a project





## The Team Software Process -2

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TSP incorporates best practices of software engineering in a single integrated package, e.g.

- team project management
- product quality management
- process management
- risk management
- software metrics

With TSP, software teams

- build detailed, accurate plans
- manage and track their commitments to within +/-10%
- produce near defect-free software with typically less than 0.1 defects/KSLOC



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# Personal Software Process

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To use the TSP, software developers must first be trained in the Personal Software Process (PSP).

The PSP provides software developers with the skills and self-convincing evidence of the benefits of software engineering practice.

In using the PSP, software developers

- follow a defined and measured personal process
- plan every job before they do it
- gather time, size, and defect data as they work
- use these data to manage their personal work and ensure the quality of the products they produce



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# Software Quality with TSP

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The quality management practices in TSP and PSP dramatically reduce the product defect content.

The following results are drawn from

- PSP training data on 298 software developers
- TSP data from 18 projects in four organizations

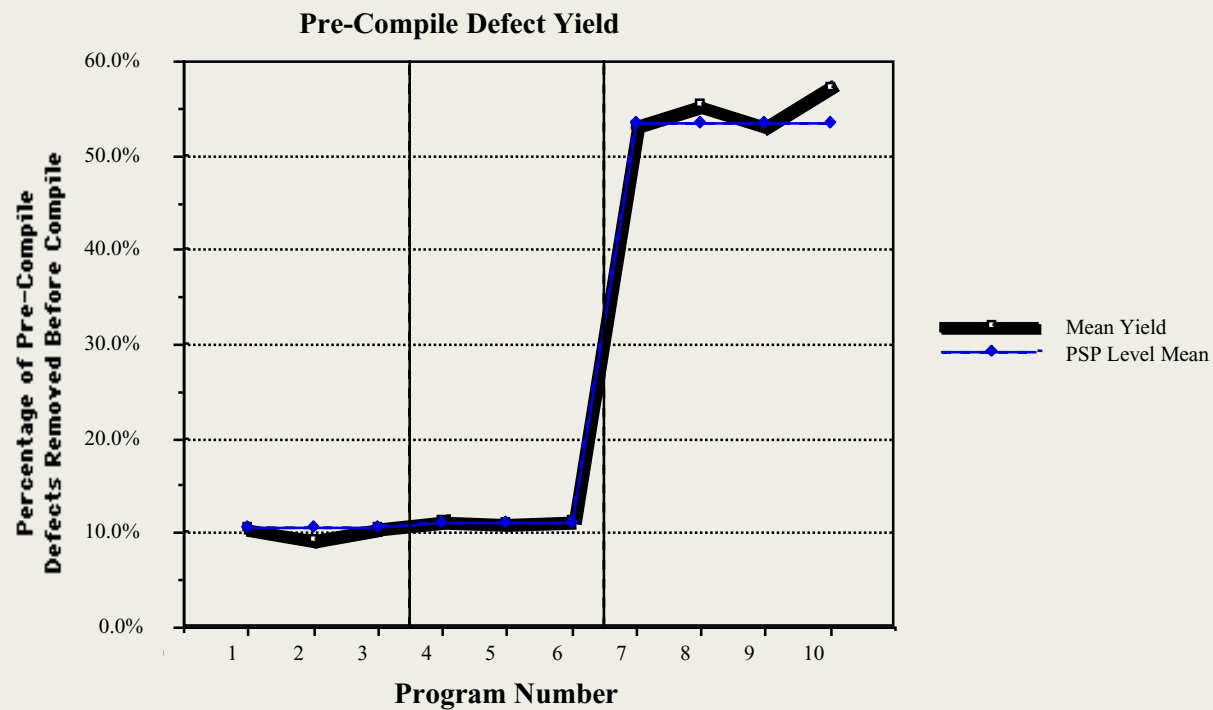
The results show the effect of TSP and PSP on

- process quality
- design time
- product quality
- system test duration



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# Process Quality Results

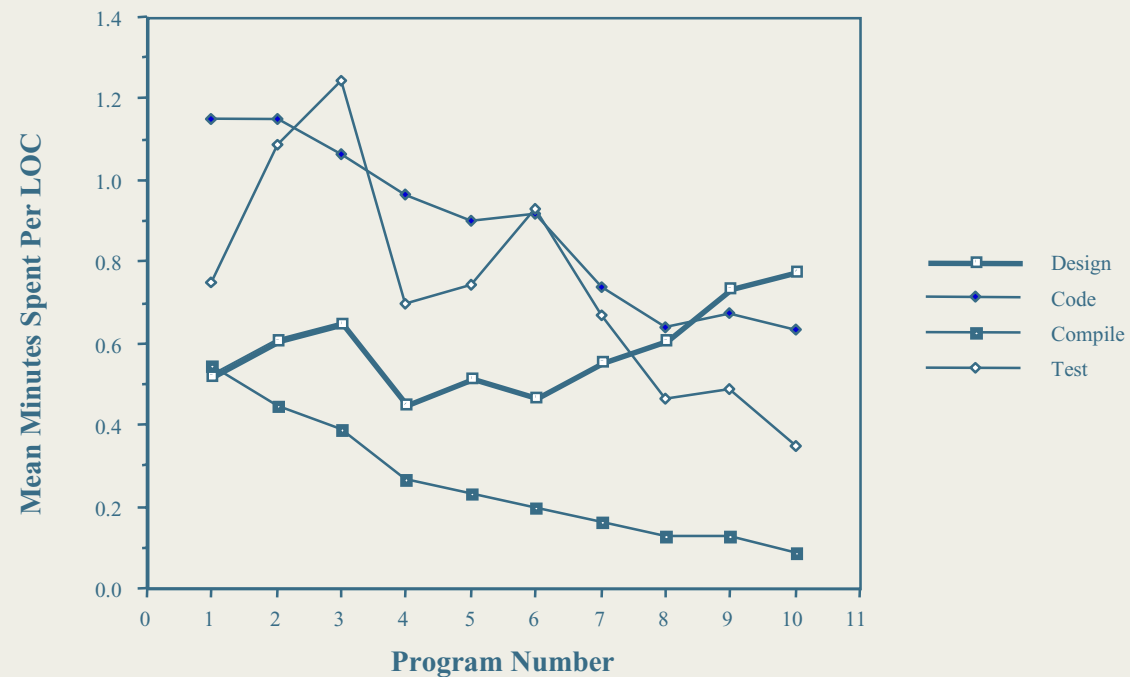




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# PSP Design Time Results

Time Invested Per (New and Changed) Line of Code

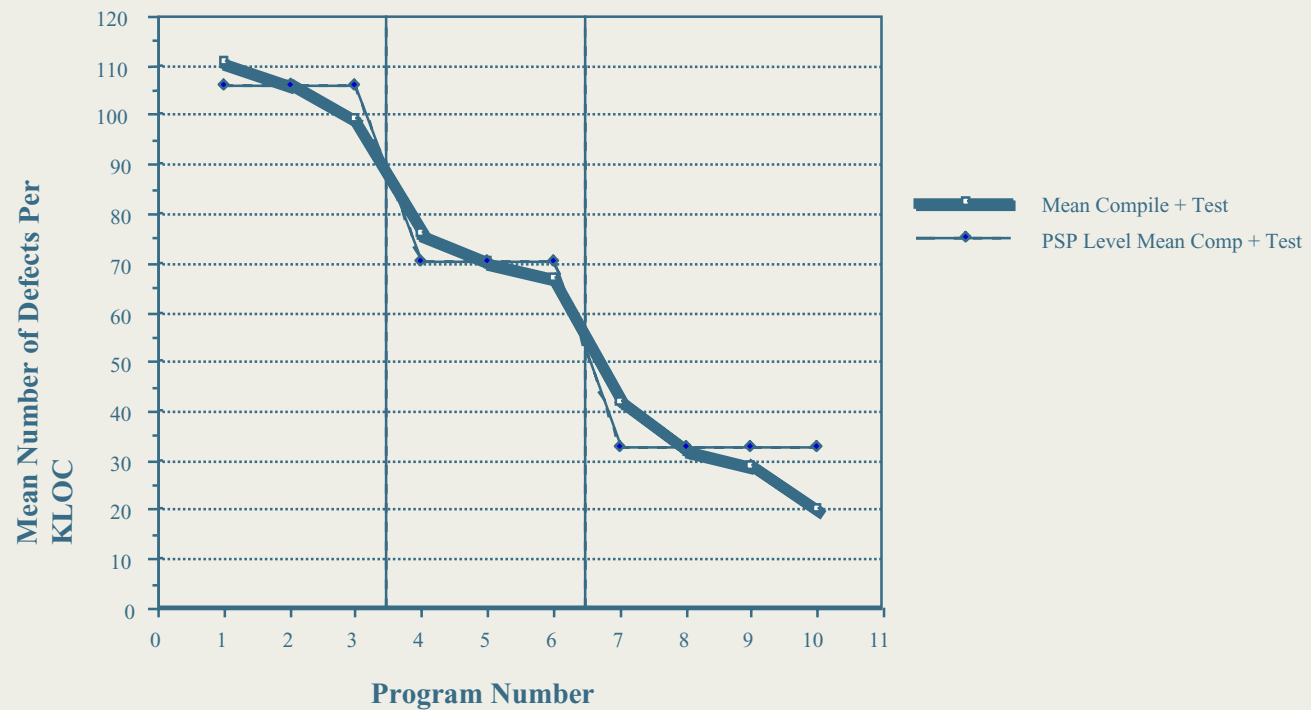




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# PSP Product Quality

Defects Per KLOC Removed in Compile and Test

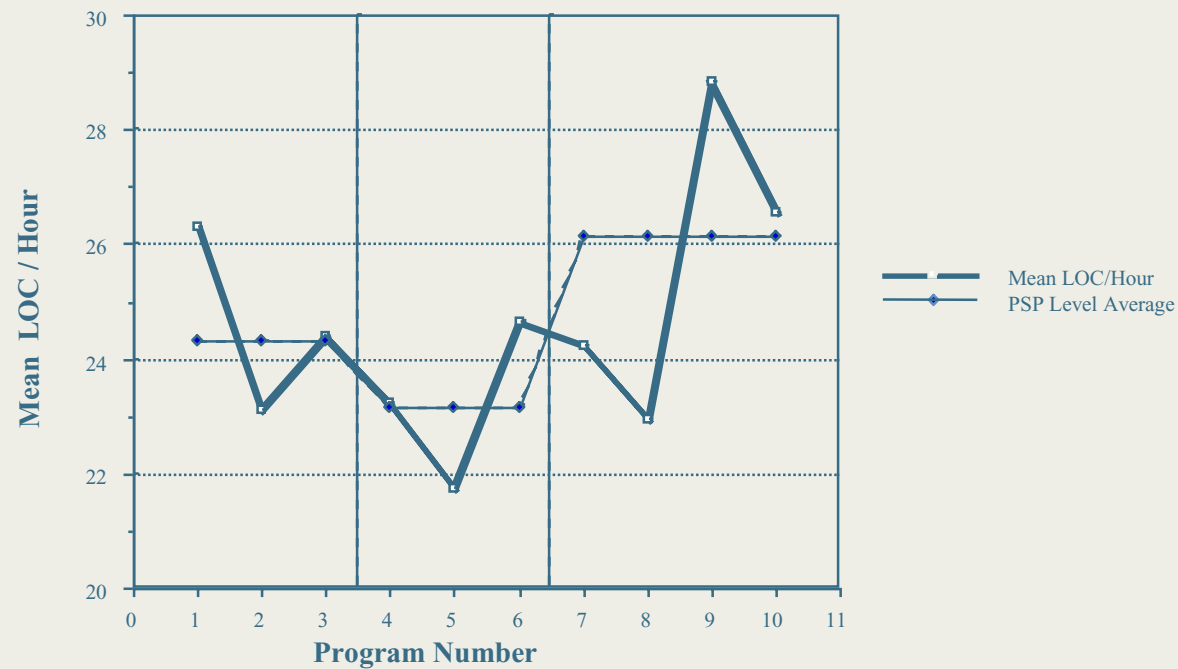




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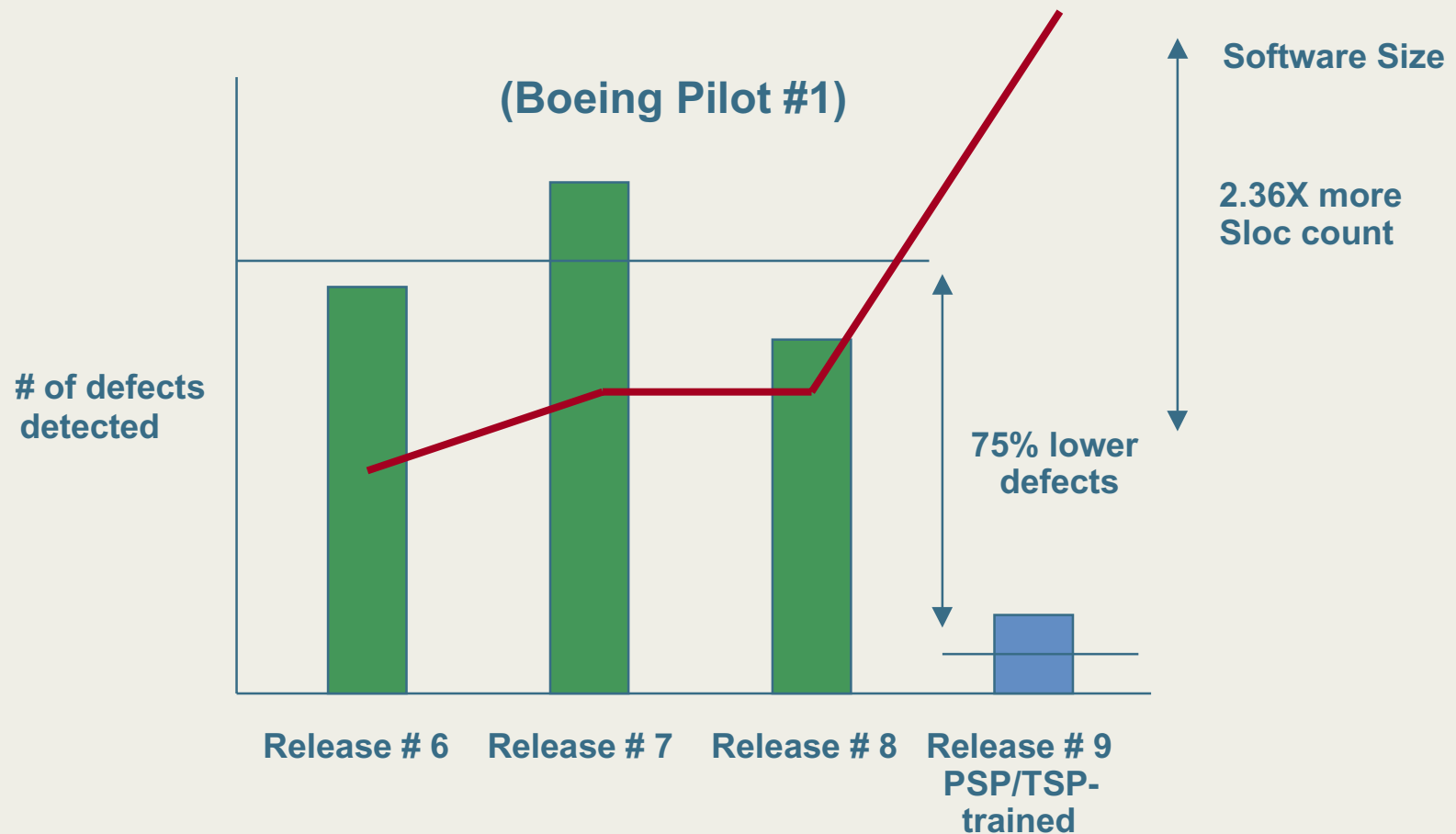
# PSP Productivity Results

Lines of (New and Changed) Code  
Produced Per Hour of Total Development Time





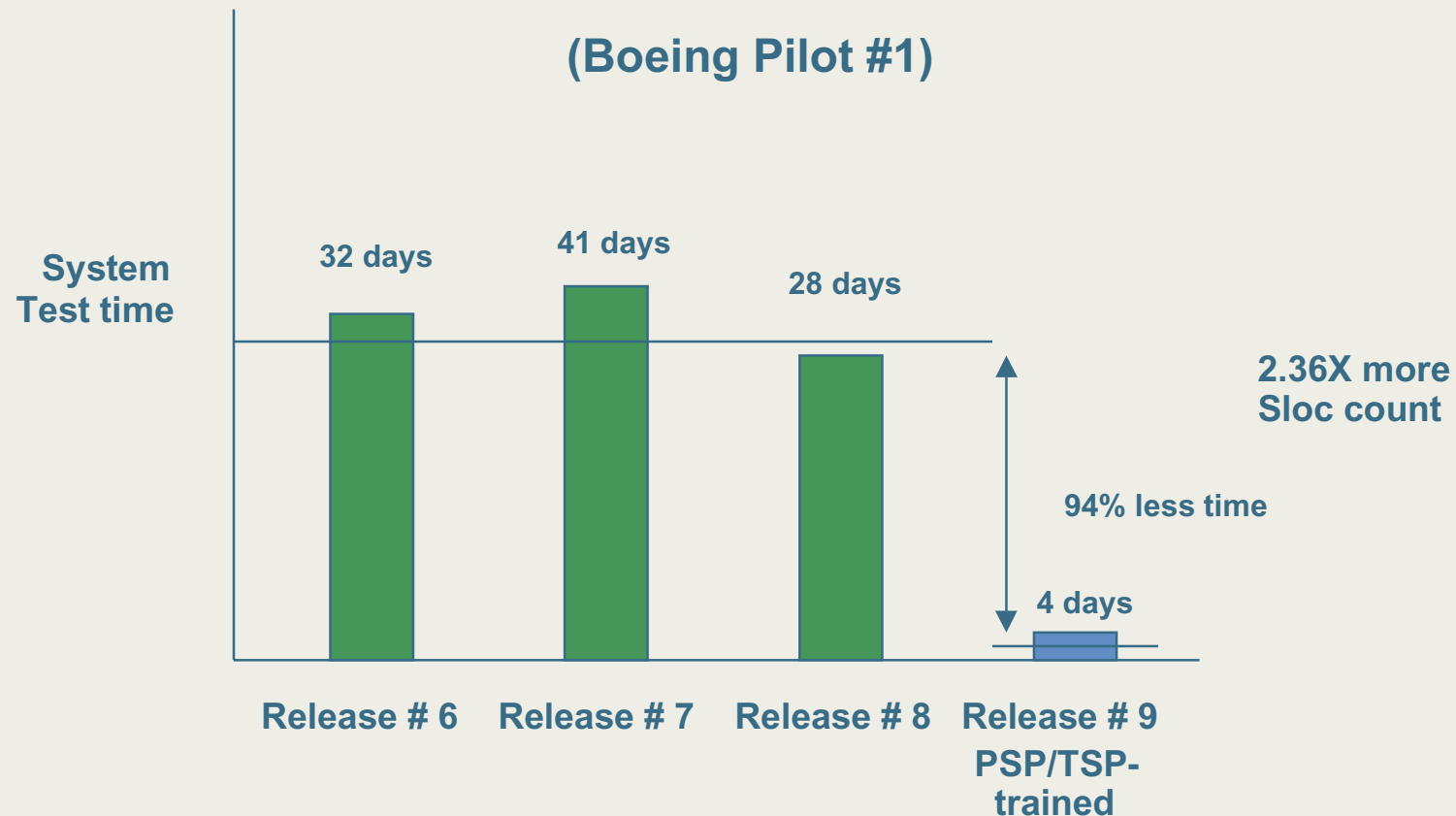
# TSP Quality Improvement -1







# TSP Quality Improvement -2





## **TSP Project Results**

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	Plan	Actual
Size Estimate	<b>110,000 LOC</b>	<b>89,995 LOC</b>
Effort Estimate	<b>16,000 hours</b>	<b>14,711 hours</b>
Schedule	<b>77 weeks</b>	<b>71 weeks</b>

### **Product Quality (Defects/KLOC removed in phase)**

• Integration	<b>1.0</b>	<b>0.2</b>
• System Test	<b>0.1</b>	<b>0.4</b>
• Field Trial	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.02</b>

### **Benefits**

- Quality levels improved 20 times over prior projects.
- Actual effort and schedule were within 8% of plan (early).



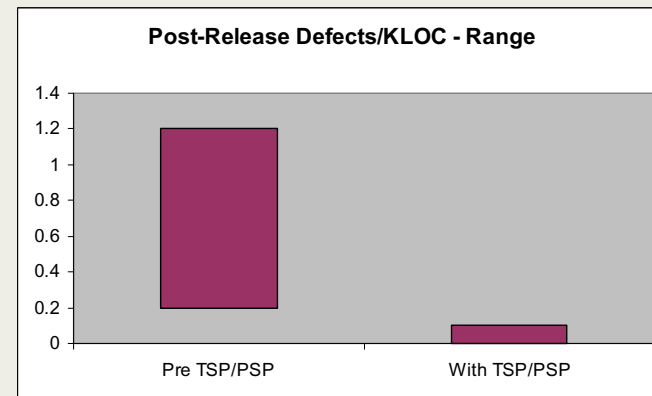
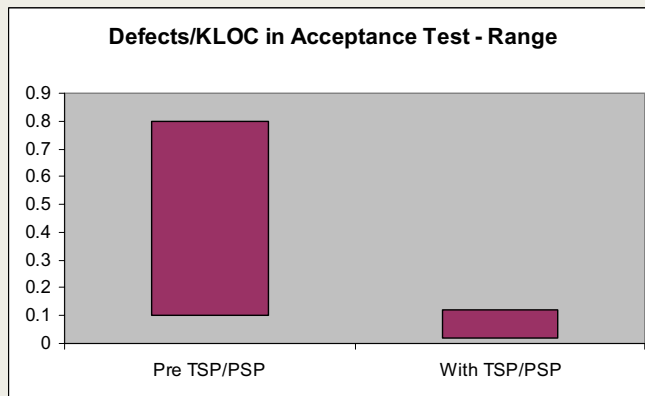
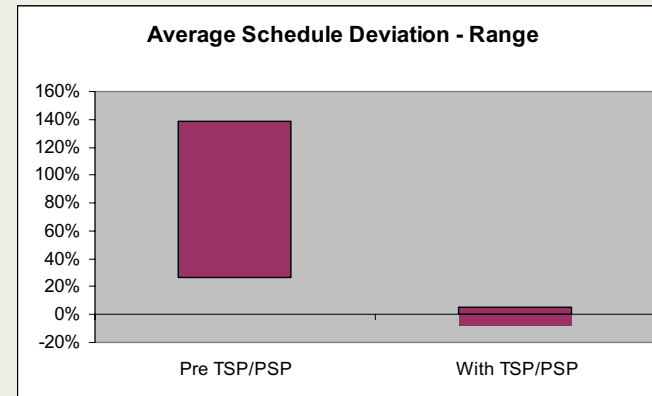
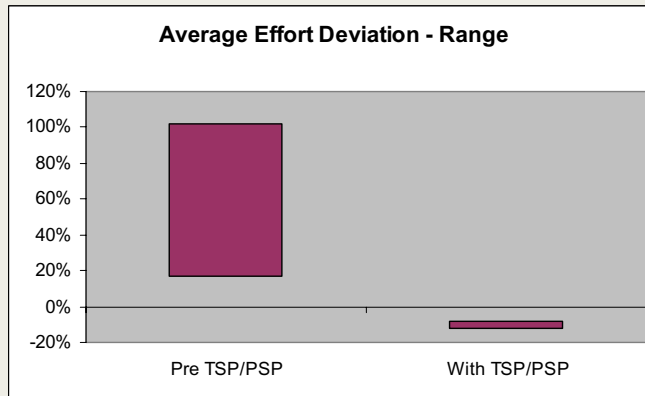
# TSP Results Summary -1

Category	Without TSP	With TSP
Average schedule deviation - range	27% to 112%	-8% to 5%
Average effort deviation - range	17% to 85%	-8% to -4%
Acceptance test product quality (defects/KLOC)	0.1* to 0.7	0.02 to 0.1
System test savings (cost to system test 1000 LOC)	1 to 5 days	0.1 to 1 days
Number of post-release defects per KLOC	0.2 to 1+	0 to 0.1

\* This data (.1 defects/KLOC in acceptance test) is from a CMM Level 5 organization



# TSP Results Summary -2





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# **Overview**

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**➡ TSP and secure systems development**



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# TSP and Secure Systems -1

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The TSP provides a framework, a set of processes, and disciplined methods for producing quality software.

Software produced with TSP has one or two orders of magnitude fewer defects than current practice.

- 0.02 defects/KSLOC vs. 2 defects/KSLOC
- 20 defects per MSLOC vs. 2000 defects per MSLOC

If 5% of the defects are potential security holes, with TSP there would be 1 vulnerability per million SLOC.



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## TSP and Secure Systems -2

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TSP also address the need for

- professional behavior
- supportive environment
- sound software engineering practice
- operational processes
- software metrics

With tailoring, TSP could be even more effective in this development domain.



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# TSP for Secure Systems -1

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TSP for Secure Systems is an applied research effort to enhance TSP for the secure systems domain.

Using design principles for secure applications, the TSP could be extended to incorporate

- secure design process
- secure implementation process
- secure review and inspection process
- secure test process
- security-related predictive measures





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## TSP for Secure Systems -2

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The goal of this effort is to develop a process that

- supports secure systems development practices
- predicts the likelihood of latent security defects
- can be dynamically tailored to respond to new threats

The TSP for secure systems project is planned for FY03 and will be a collaborative effort involving

- industry and government partners
- SEI/NSS program
- SEI/TSP initiative



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# TSP Secure Systems Pilot

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A key element of the TSP for Secure Systems project will be pilot projects.

The pilot project will help in developing the specific technical solutions.

- design and implementation practices
- review methods and checklists
- tools

We are currently seeking organizations that are interested in participating.



## Summary

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TSP helps organizations establish a mature and disciplined software engineering practice that

- improves cost and schedule predictability
- reduces time to market
- produces high-quality, reliable software, with fewer security-related defects

The TSP for secure systems effort will build on these capabilities to create a mature process, with specific features for building secure systems.



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## **For More Information**

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Visit the Software Engineering Institute web site at  
[www.sei.cmu.edu](http://www.sei.cmu.edu)

Visit the TSP web site at  
[www.sei.cmu.edu/tsp](http://www.sei.cmu.edu/tsp)

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